

We Claim:

1. A locking window, said window comprising:
  - (a) a window frame including at least one window sash which is selectively movable between a first closed position and a second open position; and
  - (b) a window latch adapted to be attached to said window and that is selectively movable between a first open position and a second locked position to secure said window sash in said closed position, said window latch including a cam latch, a housing and a pivot fastener for attaching said cam latch to said housing.
2. The apparatus according to Claim 1, further including a detent for retaining said cam latch in one of said open and said locked positions.
3. The apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said detent provides an audible indication of said cam latch being in one of said open and said locked positions.
4. The apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said detent includes at least one protrusion on one of said housing and said cam latch and a receiving groove on the other of said housing and said cam latch, said protrusion and said groove being substantially parallel to the axis of said pivot fastener.
5. The apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said detent includes at least one protrusion on one of said housing and said cam latch and a semi-circular receiving groove on the other of said housing and said cam latch, said semi-circular receiving groove including at least one barbell shaped portion for receiving said protrusion, said protrusion being substantially parallel to the axis of said pivot fastener and said groove being substantially perpendicular to the axis of said pivot fastener.

6. The apparatus according to Claim 2, further including a bushing adapted for use with said pivot fastener.

7. The apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said detent includes at least one protrusion on one of said housing and said bushing and a receiving groove on the other of said housing and said bushing, said receiving groove for receiving said protrusion, said protrusion and said groove being substantially parallel to the axis of said pivot fastener.

8. The apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein said detent includes at least one resilient portion on one of said housing and said bushing, said resilient portion for accommodating said protrusion when said cam latch is moved from one of said open and said locked positions to the other of said open and said locked positions.

9. A window latch for a locking window, said window having a window frame including at least one window sash which is selectively movable between a first closed position and a second open position, said window latch comprising:

- (a) an cam latch;
- (b) a housing including a support wall; and
- (c) a pivot fastener for attaching said cam latch to said housing, wherein said cam latch is selectively movable between a first open position and a second locked position to secure said window sash in said closed position.

10. The apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein said cam latch includes an actuator arm, a locking arm and a pivot point location between said actuator arm and said locking arm.

11. The apparatus according to Claim 9, further including a finger tab on said actuator arm.

12. The apparatus according to Claim 9, said locking arm further including a cam wall.

13. The apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein the ratio of the length of said actuator arm to the length of said locking arm is greater than about 2 to provide a mechanical advantage when said window latch is operated.

14. The apparatus according to Claim 9, one of said actuator arm and said locking arm including a key lock receptor and the other of said actuator arm and said locking arm including a complementary key lock extending into said key lock receptor for attaching said cam latch to said housing.

15. The apparatus according to Claim 14, further including a fastener extending into said key lock and key lock receptor.

16. The apparatus according to Claim 15, said fastener is a self-tapping threaded fastener.

17. The apparatus according to Claim 14, one of said key lock and said key lock receptor further including an alignment feature and the other of said key lock and said key lock receptor further including a mating alignment feature.

18. The apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein said housing extends beyond said pivot fastener parallel to said window frame and includes an aperture for receiving a fastener for attaching said housing to said window.

19. The apparatus according to Claim 18, wherein said aperture for receiving a fastener for attaching said housing to said window includes a retainer for receiving a fastener.

20. The apparatus according to Claim 18, wherein the base of said aperture for receiving a fastener includes a cavity for receiving shavings formed by attaching said window latch to said window.

5           21. The apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein said housing extends beyond said pivot fastener parallel to said window frame to include a finger shoulder for providing access to said cam latch.

22. The apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein said support wall is  
10 between said aperture and cam latch.

23. The apparatus according to Claim 22, wherein said support wall is substantially perpendicular to said window frame.

15           24. The apparatus according to Claim 9, further including a locking arm catch.

25. The apparatus according to Claim 24, further including a cam detent for  
engaging said locking arm.  
20

26. The apparatus according to Claim 24, further including an aperture for receiving a fastener for attaching said locking arm catch to said window.

27. The apparatus according to Claim 26, wherein said aperture for  
25 receiving a fastener for attaching said locking arm catch to said window includes a retainer for receiving a fastener.

28. The apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein said pivot fastener is substantially non-compressible so as to facilitate the selective movement of said cam  
30 latch between said first open position and said second locked position.

29. A locking window, said window comprising:

(a) a window frame including at least one window sash which is selectively movable between a first closed position and a second open position; and

(b) a window latch adapted to be attached to said window and that is selectively movable between a first open position and a second locked position to secure said window sash in said closed position, said window latch comprising:

(i) a cam latch;

(ii) a housing including a support wall;

(iii) a pivot fastener for attaching said cam latch to said housing, wherein said cam latch is selectively movable between a first open position and a second locked position to secure said window sash in said closed position; and

(iv) a detent for retaining said cam latch in one of said open and said locked positions.

30. The apparatus according to Claim 29, wherein said detent provides an audible indication of said cam latch being in one of said open and said locked positions.

31. The apparatus according to Claim 29, wherein said detent includes at least one protrusion on one of said housing and said cam latch and a receiving groove on the other of said housing and said cam latch, said protrusion and said groove being substantially parallel to the axis of said pivot fastener.

32. The apparatus according to Claim 29, wherein said detent includes at least one protrusion on one of said housing and said cam latch and a semi-circular receiving groove on the other of said housing and said cam latch, said semi-circular receiving groove including at least one barbell shaped portion for receiving said protrusion, said protrusion being substantially parallel to the axis of said pivot

fastener and said groove being substantially perpendicular to the axis of said pivot fastener.

33. The apparatus according to Claim 29, further including a bushing  
5 adapted for use with said pivot fastener.

34. The apparatus according to Claim 33, wherein said detent includes at  
least one protrusion on one of said housing and said bushing and a receiving groove  
on the other of said housing and said bushing, said receiving groove for receiving said  
10 protrusion, said protrusion and said groove being substantially parallel to the axis of  
said pivot fastener.

35. The apparatus according to Claim 34, wherein said detent includes at  
least one resilient portion on one of said housing and said bushing, said resilient  
15 portion for accommodating said protrusion when said cam latch is moved from one of  
said open and said locked positions to the other of said open and said locked  
positions.

36. The apparatus according to Claim 29, wherein said cam latch includes  
20 an actuator arm, a locking arm and a pivot point location between said actuator arm  
and said locking arm.

37. The apparatus according to Claim 29, further including a finger tab on  
said actuator arm.

25

38. The apparatus according to Claim 29, said locking arm further  
including a cam wall.

39. The apparatus according to Claim 29, wherein the ratio of the length of  
30 said actuator arm to the length of said locking arm is greater than about 2 to provide a  
mechanical advantage when said window latch is operated.

40. The apparatus according to Claim 29, one of said actuator arm and said locking arm including a key lock receptor and the other of said actuator arm and said locking arm including a complementary key lock extending into said key lock receptor for attaching said cam latch to said housing.

5

41. The apparatus according to Claim 40, further including a fastener extending into said key lock and key lock receptor.

42. The apparatus according to Claim 41, said fastener is a self-tapping threaded fastener.

10

43. The apparatus according to Claim 40, one of said key lock and said key lock receptor further including an alignment feature and the other of said key lock and said key lock receptor further including a mating alignment feature.

15

44. The apparatus according to Claim 29, wherein said housing extends beyond said pivot fastener parallel to said window frame and includes an aperture for receiving a fastener for attaching said housing to said window.

45. The apparatus according to Claim 44, wherein said aperture for receiving a fastener for attaching said housing to said window includes a retainer for receiving a fastener.

20

46. The apparatus according to Claim 44, wherein the base of said aperture for receiving a fastener includes a cavity for receiving shavings formed by attaching said window latch to said window.

25

47. The apparatus according to Claim 29, wherein said housing extends beyond said pivot fastener parallel to said window frame to include a finger shoulder for providing access to said cam latch.

30

48. The apparatus according to Claim 47, wherein said support wall is between said aperture and cam latch.

5 49. The apparatus according to Claim 48, wherein said support wall is substantially perpendicular to said window frame.

50. The apparatus according to Claim 29, further including a locking arm catch.

10 51. The apparatus according to Claim 50, further including a cam detent for engaging said locking arm.

52. The apparatus according to Claim 50, further including an aperture for receiving a fastener for attaching said locking arm catch to said window.

15

53. The apparatus according to Claim 52, wherein said aperture for receiving a fastener for attaching said locking arm catch to said window includes a retainer for receiving a fastener.

20 54. The apparatus according to Claim 29, wherein said pivot fastener is substantially non-compressible so as to facilitate the selective movement of said cam latch between said first open position and said second locked position.